

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Atlanta, GA 30341-3724

Dear Colleague,

We are pleased to announce the second annual **Recreational Water Illness Prevention Week**, **May 22-29, 2006**. The week before Memorial Day Weekend, the start of the traditional summer swimming season, has been designated as an official event to bring attention to the important role that we all play in promoting Healthy Swimming practices. Many of you read about the splashpad-associated outbreak of "Crypto" (cryptosporidiosis) that affected almost 3000 people in Seneca Lake, NY last summer. That was just one of many outbreaks of recreational water illnesses that occurred across the country last year. These outbreaks underscore the continuing need to educate people about recreational water illness prevention. Recreational Water Illness Prevention Week provides an ideal opportunity to reach out to pool operators, the media, and the general public with messages designed to raise awareness and stimulate action. More information about this special week is available at:

http://www.cdc.gov/healthyswimming/rwi_prevention_week.htm

Please forward this message to all your aquatic health program staff so they can be a part of this major Healthy Swimming Initiative. Attached are two files that may provide ideas and actions that our many state, local, and partner programs can use to capitalize on the national publicity planned for this week with their own local version of this event. Please share your successes with us. Send a recap of your activities (clippings, radio and television coverage, photographs, website links and other materials) promoting Healthy Swimming to-

Via email: Via Fax: Via Mail:

To: ehsb@cdc.gov 770-488-7310 CDC Subject: RWI Prevention Week RWI

CDC, NCEH, EHSB RWI Prevention Week 4770 Buford Hwy NE (F28) Atlanta, GA 30341

We will compile a list of your ideas to develop an even better publicity package next year. This effort is a continuation of the longstanding collaboration between CDC's Healthy Swimming Initiative and the Environmental Health Services Branch.

Best regards,

Sharunda D. Buchanan, Ph.D., Chief Environmental Health Services Branch (MS F28) Division of Emergency and Environmental Health Services National Center for Environmental Health Telephone: 770.488.7476

Fax: 770.488.7310

Email: sbuchanan@cdc.gov
Website: www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs

Michael J. Beach, Ph.D., Chief Water and Environment Activity (MS F22)

Division of Parasitic Diseases

National Center for Infectious Diseases

Telephone: 770.488.7763 Fax: 770.488.7761

Email: mbeach@cdc.gov

Website: www.cdc.gov/healthyswimming